

Progression report card Broadband Forum WT-304 Broadband Access Service Attributes and Performance Metrics

For the
FCC Measuring Broadband America
Collaborative



Version 1.0

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Project Timeline

Project Approval date – WT-304 Project = March 2012
Current Working Text revision 4



Project Abstract

The purpose of this contribution is to define a new BBF project to create a standard set of Broadband performance metrics to address on-going regulatory, and consumer performance information needs. Specifically the standard needs to create a standard set of “Service attributes” along with standard acceptable performance measurement methods/architecture that recommend how to measure those service attributes.

Project Scope

Main Goal – Create a set of standard Performance Metrics (PM) that describe salient attributes of broadband access services.

Specifically -

Define a set of common Broadband Service Attributes (BSA)

Describe the requirements for and define a set of measurements for these BSAs and an architecture to perform them

- The solution must be scalable, with no noticeable effect on other customer traffic.
- The solution will identify the salient measurement points and methods.
- The measurements must allow broadband access network performance to be characterized without introducing bias due to other network elements (e.g., backbone network or customer premises network).
- It's expected that the BBF may gather requirements for the measurements from service providers or potentially directly from regulators.

Broadband forum technical work in progress link (WT-304 is in the end to end architecture area)

<http://www.broadband-forum.org/technical/technicalwip.php>

Progression

Major project components and their status:

Adopted = consensus to working text level,

Resolved = concept consensus working text being proposed

- 1) **Use cases** – adopted Text
 - ISP monitoring
 - Customer on-demand
 - Trouble shooting and diagnostics
 - 3rd party
- 2) **Service Attributes** – adopted text
 - Sub Project – SD-323 Provides a Home LAN interface for customer Service attributes - resolved
- 3) **Network test Segments** – adopted text
- 4) **Test Point naming / addressing conventions** – adopted text (Network & customer sides)
- 5) **Performance definitions** – partially adopted
- 6) **Testing system functional elements** – adopted
- 7) **Testing control signaling framework** - resolved
 - Measurement agent / Test Server level CAC
 - Controller to MA push type notification for ISP control (national emergency type)
- 8) **Testing System quality control methods** – resolved
 - Isolation / Segmentation Diagnostics groups
 - Calibration / Validation test

Supplemental talking points of interest

The overall frame work goals are more modular and flexible than past projects.

(Performance, fault isolation / trouble-shooting / customer use / flexible enough for 3rd party involvement)

- Somewhat future proof it enables creating new standardized tests without re-inventing the framework.
- A great deal of the framework construct is being built to support regulatory needs as well due to regulators sharing their needs

The project involves Customer advocacy

(standards for the customer) but this will require the cooperation and assistance of other standards groups

- Providing the customer having the ability to test their own network is also in scope

Possibility of Certification path

- One added feature the BBF brings to the table is the ability to create a standard certification program to ensure apples to apples comparisons are qualifiable

Next BBF Meeting

The BBF meets September 16-20th in Atlanta, GA, USA.

Most if not all resolved concepts should become working text at this meeting.